

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Evaluation of: (a) Medical Book on Intratrachial Anesthesia;
(b) Three Issues of the "Journal of Neuropathology and Psychiatry";
(c) Two Issues of "Clinical Medicine"

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[Source was furnished with copies of the following and asked to comment;

- I. TEKNIKA INTUBATSIONNOGO NARKOZA by Ye N Meshalkin
Medgiz, Moscow 1953 (168 pages)
- II. ZHURNAL NEVROPATOLOGII I PSIKHIATRII im. S S Korsakova
Vol LIII, No 11, November 1953
- III. ZHURNAL NEVROPATOLOGII I PSIKHIATRII im. S S Korsakova
Vol LIII, No 12, December 1953
- IV. ZHURNAL NEVROPATOLOGII I PSIKHIATRII im. S S Korsakova
Vol LIV, No 1, January 1954
- V. KLINICHESKAYA MEDITSINA
Vol. XXXI, No 11, November 1953
- VI. KLINICHESKAYA MEDITSINA
Vol XXXI, No 12, December 1953]

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I. TEKHNIKA INTUBATIONNOGO NARKOZA

1. In US terminology the technique described in this book would be called intratracheal anesthesia. It is a very interesting and valuable book. I was very pleasantly surprised to find the usual political remarks completely absent and actually the book could have been written in any scientifically advanced western country. It is concerned with a very important widely discussed problem in the general field of anesthesia. It gives a very detailed account of the methods used and it is illustrated by many pictures, tables and diagrams. It contains not only a thorough discussion of the theoretical side of the problem but also offers many practical suggestions.
2. As is, of course, well known this method of anesthesia is rather difficult to perform and must be used only by experienced specialists who have the proper equipment. It has become a very popular technique in contemporary times and is quite indispensable in many kinds of operations particularly those involving the oral cavity, the larynx, the esophagus, the lungs or the heart. It has many advantages over conventional inhalation methods, particularly because the amount of ether or other anesthetic given to the patient may be precisely calculated and its supply strictly regulated irrespective of the respiratory movements of the patient, and also because the oxygen supply may be continually maintained at the desirable level.
3. Over 100 years ago the famous physician Pirogov recommended the use of tracheotomy for this purpose. Later his proposal was supported by Trendelenburg (German, Snow (US or UK) and others. In the 1880's MacCune and Dwyer introduced a method of intubation perfected at the beginning of the 20th century by Kuhn, Mashin, Melzer, Auer, Waters, Magill and others. The author quotes many non-Russian works in this field, including the books of Gillespie (1950) Lundy (1945) and Flagg (1946). He also furnishes at the end of the book a complete bibliography of Soviet contributions.
4. The first chapter of the book is concerned with the general principles of intubation anesthesia. In it the author describes the open, semi-closed and closed methods, indicating his preference for the latter two.
5. Chapter two gives a very detailed description of the rather complicated apparatus necessary for this technique. The author mentions specifically the apparatus of Danovich, Starkov and Arapov which apparently are the most popular in the USSR (pages 42-55).
6. Chapter three is devoted to the technique of this form of anesthesia, especially the first stage of the technique namely the induction of the anesthesia. He gives three different schemes for this and evaluates their advantages and disadvantages (pages 72-73).
7. In chapter four is found a very detailed description of the various methods of intubation itself namely by mouth or nose, visual, tactile or by groping, with or without laryngoscope or bronchoscope. In chapter four the author also discusses possible errors to be avoided by anyone using this technique.
8. In chapter five he discusses the main ingredients of the anesthesia itself. He states that the average mixture is as follows: ether: 14.4 grams, nitrous oxide: 24.6 liters and oxygen: 30.2 liters per hour. These figures refer to the mixture used only in the closed method.
9. Chapter six describes the biomechanics of surgical pneumothorax, atelectasis etc. during intrathoracic operations performed under anesthesia administered

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by the intubation and explains methods for the control of these conditions.

10. Chapter seven is concerned with the management of the post-anesthesia period. Statistical data are furnished based on 700 operations in which the intubation method was used. Pulmonary complications were observed in 16.3 per cent. pneumonia in 4.3 per cent. (If the time under anesthesia lasted more than two hours, the percentage of pulmonary complications rose to 20.4 per cent) Death due to the anesthesia itself occurred in 0.4 per cent. These few fatalities were caused by technical errors on the part of the anesthetist.
11. Finally, I should mention that according to the author this form of anesthesia is the preferred method in one of the best surgical hospitals in Moscow and is used frequently not only for thoracic operations but also in abdominal and other operations involving "poor risk" patients.
- II. ZHURNAL MEVROPATOLOGII I PSIKHIATRII im S S Korsakova
Vol LIII, No 11, November 1953.
12. The opening editorial in this journal, as might be expected, is concerned with the 36th anniversary of the October Revolution. It contains the usual material encountered in this kind of editorial. I was, however, interested to note that the editorial is heavily sprinkled with compliments for the Chinese. The other so-called People's Democracies, including North Korea and Mongolia, are also praised.
13. There are a number of highly specialized articles in this issue. For example, on page 840 is a discussion of the hearing ability, as shown by audiograms, of patients suffering from auditory hallucinations (N F Baskina). On page 847 is an analysis of depersonalization in schizophrenia (S L Levin). On page 854 is an article dealing with plethysmographic studies during hypnosis (Yu A Lovorinskiy). This last is a very popular field in the USSR. Page 873 is an article (E I Raudam and L I Kuldma) which discusses the asymmetry of reflectory leukocytosis as observed in the arms. On page 878 is an interesting article on skin temperature in cortical lesion cases.
14. On page 882 is an article by E S Arutyunov describing a "reflexometer" used for the measurement of knee jerk. The device was new to me but its value is open to question.
15. This issue also contains two political articles which I found interesting. The first, by V K Beletskiy, is a criticism of a number of scientists who hold, according to the author, "idealistic theories in problems of neuroglia." The article furnishes no basis for this criticism. The second political article is a rather interesting report on the International Physicians' Congress held in Vienna in May 1953. As might be expected it is mostly a question of the bad capitalist scientists versus the good Marxist scientists. The author found it difficult, however, to put much blame on bourgeois scientists so he limits himself to a rather short criticism for some reason aimed particularly at Greeks and Italians. He later quotes reports of a number of Western scientists who, according to the author, at the congress painted very sad pictures of living conditions in their respective countries, particularly among the working classes. The scientists he quotes include the following (spellings are transliterated Russian): Sebra-Dinis (Portugal); Monkvard (Denmark); Veyll'-alle (France); Zhirara (Guadeloupe); Baliga (India); Milasko (Argentina); de Sa Pires (Brazil).

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16. On page 906 is a most interesting letter written to the editor of the journal by P Ye Vishnevskiy, whose name is not familiar to me. In it Vishnevskiy states that he has worked in the field of psychiatry for 26 years and that he has been an admirer of Pavlov since the beginning and at one time even worked with Pavlov himself. But, he continues, he now feels both astonished and displeased to see that during recent years there have been attempts at what he calls the "reconstruction" of psychiatry based on Pavlov's doctrines with the help of numerous quotations from Marxism and natural science classics. Actually he believes that this surplus of assorted quotations is found in the works of writers in this field merely to make up for the lack of factual material in their work and that such writers, by insisting on the incontrovertibility of such quotations, are attempting to terrorize possible future critics who might reveal this lack. Especially disgusting he believes is the so-called Pavlov's "Doctrine of Schizophrenia" which in 1950 replaced the classical conceptions of Krepelin and Bleuer after a "historical conference". This metamorphosis, he says, was supported only by numerous quotations of doubtful value. Anyone, however, who did not agree was accused of being a reactionary, especially by the editors to whom he addressed his letter. He follows these statements with numerous examples.
17. The editor's answer to this letter is very vague. They state merely that they wish to avoid discord, that the question of schizophrenia is a very complicated one and needs further scientific investigation. They agree, however, that scientists should not be required to obey orders covering their research activities, and that valuable contributions can be made in science only by the exchange of free opinions.
18. This is an extraordinary letter. The fact that it was published in this journal may very well indicate that a new scientific party line is being established. I have noted in the US press the criticism by Sobolev of Soviet physics professors who have neglected the theories of Einstein. Similarly, the US press has carried stories about criticism of even Lysenko and Bykov. The fact that these men and now even Pavlov himself have been criticized certainly shows that some change is occurring.
- III. ZHURNAL NEVROPATOLOGII I PSIKHIATRII im S S Korsakova
Vol LIII, No 12, December 1953
19. This issue starts with a very detailed summary by V M Morozov of the work of P H Gannushkin who died about 20 years ago. Needless to say in this discussion there are no quotations from his best-known work which was entitled "Premature Mental Invalidism Caused by the Peculiarities of the Soviet Regime". The article does mention briefly this "false conception" of Gannushkin but states that he later repented and confessed his errors. This, of course, was not so. Gannushkin was greatly persecuted and he died very suddenly when he was only about 60. It was supposed at the time that he had been poisoned.
20. The issue contains a large number of very short specialized articles. On page 922 there is, for example, an analysis by S I Kogan of the hypochondriacal status. An article on page 935 (Yu G Kozlov) describes attempts at the treatment of this condition with intravenous novocain injections. I mention this article because I remember back in the 1930's that Speranskiy and Vishnevskiy proposed a method of lumbar novocain blockade for the treatment of certain neurological conditions. All my teachers at that time were very skeptical about this method. Nowadays, of course, lumbar novocain blockades are routine in the US. Nevertheless, the author of this particular article was very reserved about his findings.
21. On page 942 is an article by A S Mel'kumova and N I Strel'tsova describing attempts to treat hypertensive disease with a novocain blockade of the glomus caroticum. The authors feel that in many cases pressure can be effectively lowered by this treatment. An article on page 957 by Ye A Orlova describes changes in the prothrombin time in many nervous disorders. On page 967 is

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a very interesting paper by Yu S Yusevich on clinical electro-myography describing electromyographic examinations of muscles in normal people and patients with such conditions as parkinsonism.

IV. ZHURNAL NEVROPATOLOGII I PSIKHIATRII im S S Korsakova
Vol LIV, No 1, January 1954

22. This particular issue contains many articles concerned with sleep therapy. Theoretically I am in favor of this form of therapy but it involves many difficulties. In spite of these difficulties, however, investigators continued their efforts and the field looks more favorable now. In this series of articles on sleep therapy descriptions are given for different varieties. The authors distinguish between amytal sleep "conditioned powders" (Placebo), monotonous light sleep, monotonous sound sleep and electric sleep (as distinguished from electric shock.) A later article mentions routine amytal sleep therapy used in 99 cases of schizophrenia. Good results were obtained in 60 per cent of these cases. 50X1
23. There are a number of short articles concerned with biochemical examinations such as electroencephalography and chronaxy, all during therapeutic sleep. As far as I was concerned, however, nothing particularly interesting is discussed.
24. On page 55 is a very detailed review of La Raison (no 2-5), a French psychopathological journal. This French journal would appear to be 100 per cent Communist, very strongly pro-Soviet and anti-US. On page 65 is an article which describes a conference of Soviet scientists at which the use of electric shock treatment was discussed. Although some of the participants were against it, most believed it to be very valuable.

V. KLINICHESKAYA MEDITSINA
Vol XXXI, No 11, November 1953

25. This issue starts with an editorial on the 36th anniversary of the October revolution but perhaps surprisingly contains no criticism of the US. The balance of the issue is devoted to a series of specialized articles few of which I found very significant. They can be summarized as follows:
- a. On page seven is a discussion concerned with the clinical importance of adequate optic chronaxy. According to the authors, O P Kufareva and A L Landa, this helps with the diagnosis of many internal diseases.
 - b. On page 18 is a detailed analysis by A A Zhgun and P V Simonov of various forms of sleep therapy.
 - c. On page 29 is a very interesting article by N I Krakovskiy and F V Nazina on what happens to novocain after its injection into the body. The metabolic changes it undergoes, its excretion, etc.
 - d. On page 35 is an article by A F Platonova-Petrovskaya and R V Rudy which recommends treating acute hepatitis with a Soviet drug called histidin. This is an amino acid and the authors claim good results with it.
 - e. An article on page 40 claims good results in the treatment of pernicious anemia with another new Soviet drug called antianemin. This drug is apparently similar to Vitamin B₁₂ being a combination of liver extract and cobalt salts.

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f. On page 44 is an article by M Yu Roninson describing the clinical importance of serological and virological examination procedures in the diagnosis of hepatitis. I have not seen anything in this field in US literature but the argument seems sound.

g. On page 52 is a rather insignificant article by G V Osechenskaya pointing out that penicillin has no effect on the blood clotting process.

h. On page 57 is a discussion by F R Gol'dberg of the importance of ophthalmoscopic examinations of the eye-ground vessels in cases of hypertensive disease. Soviet authors, incidentally, distinguish between four types of this disease: pre-hypertensive, functional, intermediary and organic.

i. On page 62 is a very peculiar article by N V Bystrov recommending combined pathogenetic treatment of various diseases. The combination recommended includes novocain blockade, Filatov transplantation and sleep treatment.

j. An article on page 66 by O S Glozman and A P Kasatkina describes the very delicate procedure involved in exchange blood transfusions which are, of course, used for such conditions as RH negative infants. The editors note the many difficulties and dangers in this procedure and caution the reader not to use it improperly.

k. On page 80 an article by F K Men'shikov furnishes statistics on gastric ulcers in the city of Kursk. I was interested to note that the frequency of ulcers in Kursk showed an increase during World War II and further that the acidity of gastric juices in the patients examined was less during the war than it was before or after it.

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Vol. XXXI, No 12, December 1953

26. The first article of any interest to me in this issue is found on page 12. It is by N V Nikolayeva and describes the treatment of essential polyerythemia with radio-active phosphorus. Although this may be a new procedure to the Soviets, it was of course originally proposed in the US 14 years ago.
27. An article on page 19 by N M Somova and N F Gerasimova describes a new agglutination test in pulmonary tuberculosis.
28. On page 24 Ye I Shchutskaya describes a new drug named "Izoniacid" which in combination with streptomycin is used for the routine treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis. The usual treatment for this condition involves a combination of streptomycin and para-aminosalicylic acid (PASA). It may be that Izoniacid is merely a replacement for the PASA but if so, it is not so identified in the text.
29. I was very interested in an article on page 31 describing the treatment of tuberculous meningitis. The author uses drastic streptomycin treatment involving anywhere from 30-100 injections (both intramuscular and intralumbal) plus PASA and vitamins. In the article it is claimed that if this treatment is started within the first five days, 54 per cent of the patients recover. This is better than US statistics on this disease. The article also states, however, that if this treatment is delayed for 16 days or more only one per cent recover.

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30. On page 36 is an article by Ye B Meve and A I Anokhin on the treatment of so-called "non-collapsing caverns" of the lungs. This is a very difficult question. Apparently the Soviets now recommend resection, it is of course, the accepted treatment in the US. This article, incidentally, is accompanied by the usual poor quality x-ray plates which we always used to refer to as "night in Madrid" x-rays.
31. An article on page 46 by Ye V Mirtovskaya describes the clinical picture of tuberculous lymphadenitis of the abdomen. This is a very treacherous condition. The author describes many cases but his description is approximately the same as that appearing in US literature.
32. On page 51 an article by S A Oganessian describes the technique of so-called "functional bronchography" during both inspiration and expiration phases of breathing. I believe this technique is of importance in the diagnosis of various lung conditions but I have not seen it described in US literature.
33. An article on page 57 discusses the prevention of post-transfusion hepatitis but this problem has been exhaustively discussed in US literature.
34. On page 61 is an article by Z M Belova describing the important part played by adeno-tri-phosphoric acid in muscle contraction. As I remember in 1939 the famous biochemist Parnass recommended trying the administration of this drug in cases of angina. Actually I tried it at this time but without any particularly suggestive results. This article reports that this treatment may be successful in as many as 50 per cent of the cases but also points out that the substance is not harmless and should be administered only in the clinic.
35. On page 72 is an article by S I Ashbel and Z V Sharonova describing the treatment of bronchial asthma with aerosols. The methods used are very similar to corresponding US methods. The article recommends the administration of dimedrol and penicillin by this means. I am unable to identify dimedrol accurately but it may be a bronchial dilator of some sort.
36. I did not find the balance of the articles in this issue particularly suggestive.

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